



McClellan Air Force Base, Calif.

June 18, 1998 Vol. 39, No. 23

SPACEMAKER

SM-ALC vision statement: "Completing the mission of McClellan AFB with professionalism and honor"



At A GLANCE

AFA Banquet

The Claude Fahrina Goldrush chapter of the Air Force Association will hold its annual "Exceptional Performer Awards Banquet" tonight at the NCO Club.

The social will begin at 6:30 p.m. with the dinner starting at 7 p.m.

The banquet will recognize exceptional military and civilian men and women for their contributions to the Air Force.

Price for E-4/GS-6 and below is \$17. Price for E-5/GS-7 to O-3/GS-11 is \$21. Price for O-4/GS-12 and above is \$23. Non-club members add \$3.

ALC Newsletter

The latest issue of the Sacramento-ALC Newsletter (June 8, volume 18) has been distributed. If you did not receive a copy, contact your supervisor.

Spacemaker Notice

The *Spacemaker* will not be published July 2 due to the July 4 holiday. Publication will resume July 9.

Father's Day

Sunday is Father's Day. Remember to take the time to say thanks.

Stop Crime

The 77th Security Forces Squadron does not want you to be a victim of crime. Participating in an active Neighborhood Watch or Crime Watch program is an effective way to reduce criminal activity in your community.

For more information about these programs or Crime Prevention tips please contact the 77th Security Forces Squadron, Crime Prevention Section, at 643-1073.

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AFMC Senior Enlisted Advisor visits base



U.S. Air Force Photo by Ester A. Stubbs

Senior Enlisted Advisors discuss the responsibilities of senior NCOs to serve as role models for young airmen with members of the McClellan Top-3. (Left to right) Master Sgt. Marvita Franklin, 77th Operations Support Squadron; Senior Master Sgt. Ken Houck, 77th Mission Support Squadron; Chief Master Sgt. Marc Mazza, AFMC Senior Enlisted Advisor; Chief Master Sgt. Len Czepiel, SM-ALC Senior Enlisted Advisor; Chief Master Sgt. Roger H. Hagenbuch, 77th Communication Squadron.

Ester A. Stubbs
Editor

While base closure, reutilization, dormitory conditions and the overall status of McClellan's enlisted members are primary concerns of Air Force Materiel Command Senior Enlisted Advisor, Chief Master Sgt. Marc A. Mazza, promoting teamwork and boosting morale are also on his mind.

Mazza took time out during his site visit here June 9 - 11, to talk about the importance of enlisted members and civilians working together to promote a teamwork atmosphere here at McClellan. Often enlisted members supervise civilians and also work side

by side with them to accomplish the Air Force's mission. For this reason, it is imperative that both groups work together as a professional team.

Within AFMC, about 70 percent of the commanders are civilians. "Some of the civilians I work with at the Staff are some of the most dedicated people I've ever worked with," said Mazza. "It is important that military and civilians work together as a team. Even though their approach to life may be a little different, each has to have an appreciation and an acceptance for their differences. Both groups must learn how the system works because of the different approaches to the jobs," he added.

"Enlisted members who are

supervising civilians need to know about civilian personnel rules and policies that are different from those of the military and to understand the system," he said. "In the end, military members and civilians have to communicate more frequently with each other, when they work together, than they do when they are working with their individual groups. This is because of their different perspectives and approaches to the job," Mazza said.

As an enlisted advisor and a leader, Mazza was asked for words to encourage both military and civilians that may motivate them during the base closure. "The impact of base closure is

SEE MAZZA, PAGE 3

Our depot competition and you

James C. Barone
SM-ALC Executive Director

The depot maintenance competition is humming along, but because it is covered in the secrecy of source selection process, many of the center's people do not know what is going on and what to expect from it. I am writing this to share with you what we expect to happen, and to provide you with some insight into the process. Those of you thinking you are going to get a "peek under the tent," will be sadly disappointed. We cannot divulge any information contained in proposals until after the award is announced sometime this September. Nevertheless, we can talk about the

plans we have put in place and how you can expect to be involved and impacted by those plans.

First, I need to emphasize again that we cannot divulge any information about the proposals, who submitted them, what is contained in them, how they would accomplish the transition, time frames, prices, etc. This information will be made public for the winning offer only after the contract is awarded. Many of you know someone involved in the source selection. You need to be considerate of their duties in the source selection. They can neither confirm nor deny any rumors, and it is unfair and prohibited to ask them. This information is all very sensitive and anyone who releases such information is

SEE COMPETITION, PAGE 12



James C. Barone

ACTION LINE

643-3344
Action Line
77 ABW/CC
5241 Arnold Ave.
McClellan AFB, CA 95652-1086
email: Actionline

Since I've been your wing commander, I've had much opportunity to hear from you on how we can make things better. This **Action Line** has been a key avenue and remains a good means to obtain feedback on how we're doing and how we can improve.

If you have or see a problem, try to work it through the responsible agency or activity first, since that will provide the most rapid resolution or action. If you still can't get the problem resolved, then try to work it through your chain of command. If the problem still exists after you've taken these two steps, then let me know so we can try to help.

In your request, please be brief, but include enough information to address the entire issue. Also, please let me know the specific action you want taken. I need your name, duty phone, and address so that we may send you a written response. I treat each call very seriously



Col. W.P. "Bear" Ard
77th Air Base Wing commander

and read each response. If I feel the issue is of interest to the entire McClellan community, we may also print it and the response in the **Spacemaker**.

Our overall goal is to better serve you. In this same vein, we also like to highlight those areas that provide high quality or exceptional support, so we can build upon and expand them. To do these things, I need your involvement.

I also welcome your input in other ways. On a quarterly basis, I hold Town Hall meetings with community members, and I regularly meet with various groups on base (the Chiefs, First Sergeants, etc.). Please plug into one of these avenues to get your voice heard. You have a say in how we serve you!

AAFES.....920-0537
Civilian Pay.....643-6725
Civil Engineering.....643-5624
Civilian Personnel643-2860
Commissary643-4954
Crime Stop Hotline.....643-6161
Dining Hall643-5092
Family Support Center643-1106
Focus Center #1643-5661
Fraud, Waste & Abuse643-6000
Housing643-6221
Legal643-3150

Lodging643-6223
MedicalMcClellan Clinic-- 643-8300
.....Mather Hospital---643-7110
Military Pay.....643-6965
Military Personnel643-1094
Public Affairs643-6127
Security Forces643-6160
Services/MWR643-6660
Social Actions643-3322
Supply643-5213
Uniform Questions643-4051

SPACEMAKER

Air Force Vision

"Air Force people building the world's most respected air and space force ... global power and reach for America"

Air Force Materiel Command Vision

"Quality Systems for America's Air Force"

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<http://www.mcclellan.af.mil/PA/spc.htm>

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Laura J. Williams **Staff Writer**

Outdated milk

Q I went to the BX gas station and found cartons of milk for sale that were outdated. I informed the supervisor of this. I returned later and found the milk was still in the case. Who supervises these things?

A Thank you for your concern and notification of the expired milk at the Service Station. In reply to your question, each of the employees assigned at the store is tasked with checking the expiration dates on perishable items, such as milk and bread. Unfortunately, this is not what happened on the day you visited.

We have taken action to remind all the

employees that removal of expired products is a priority item. If you find any other problems or have suggestions for improvements in the Service Station, please contact Michael Friedman, Service Station Manager. Of course, we welcome your comments to help improve operations in any of our facilities.

Car 'For Sale' sign

Q I was told by Col. Scherer's office that I was not allowed to drive my car on base while it has a "For Sale" sign in the window. I was shopping and parked my car in the BX parking lot. I was told to move it. What is the purpose of this policy?

A Thank you for your concern regarding the policy involving driving a vehicle with a "For Sale" sign. The recently approved base policy on "For Sale" vehicles states the "lemon lot" parking area on Skyvarla Avenue, adjacent to the Bowling Alley, is the only authorized area to permanently display a vehicle for sale. The point of contact for this parking area is 77 SPTG/SVRO, 643-5067. This does not prevent individuals from driving a vehicle daily on the base with a "For Sale" sign displayed. For example, temporary parking at your work site or the Base Exchange while shopping is permitted. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Master Sgt. Darryl E. Morris, Security Forces Operations Superintendent, at 643-2020.

DDMC employee garners first ever packaging award

Joyce Ward

DDMC Training Coordinator

Donald E. Wehe, a packer in the Hazardous Packing Section, Packing and Shipping Division, Defense Distribution Depot McClellan was selected to receive the first Annual Defense Packaging Achievement Award.

This award, instituted in 1997, recognizes and honors the most outstanding individuals or organizations in the Department of Defense packaging community who have contributed significantly to the packaging effort. This award serves to increase interest in packaging development, productivity, and efficiency throughout DoD. It also recognizes the achievements of personnel who have performed packaging "above and beyond" normal duties. The Defense

Packaging Policy Group reviewed the nominations and selected the winner.

Wehe has 20 years of federal civilian service, 15 years of which has been spent in the packing arena. He has also received four awards for approved suggestions dealing with improvement of the packing process in his section. He has been selected Employee of the Month for his division and for the Depot and has also been awarded four On-the-Spot awards for accomplishments exceeding the requirements of his assigned duties. He demonstrates leadership, professionalism, and dedication to duty on a

daily basis.

The award was presented at the Pentagon, Washington, D.C. The

Assistant Deputy Undersecretary of Defense Materiel and Distribution, Walter Atchley, hosted the

award ceremony. Wehe was presented the Packaging Achievement Award by Roy Willis, Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Logistics and a one-year membership in the National Institute of Packaging Engineers and a Certificate of Appreciation by John Schmuff, NIPE president. He also received a Certificate of Achievement from DPPG Chairman, Anthony Stampone.



U.S. Air Force Photo

Roy Willis, Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Logistics (left), presents the Defense Packaging Achievement Award to Donald Wehe.

Meeting of the Minds:

AFMC labor and management officials hold first-ever summit

Gathered from reports by AFMC senior management and American Federation of Government Employees officials

Representatives from Air Force Materiel Command and the American Federation of Government Employees held a labor-relations summit in San Antonio, Texas, recently in an effort to direct the parties toward a more productive and cooperative relationship.

"I view the exercise to have been worthwhile and positive," said Leif Peterson, chief of Civilian Personnel and Programs at AFMC. "We had a frank, open and honest exchange of views, and discovered that we have several areas of common interests and needs."

"Never before has an AFMC Commander participated in such a Labor/Management meeting," said Jim Davis, President of AFGE Council 214. "Gen Babbitt's attendance along with AFGE National President Bobby Harnage's presence demonstrates a commitment from the highest levels to move our relationship forward in a positive fashion."

The first-ever summit was moderated by Joseph Swerdzewski, the General Counsel of the Federal Labor Relations Authority.

Both parties at the summit laid

the ground work to negotiate a new master labor agreement, renew partnership at the command level, come to an agreement on the issue of employee multi-skilling and seek agreement on the implementation of Air Force Instructions. Many of the issues have been in negotiation for a long time or have been shelved after progress had slowed to a halt.

Leaders from both management and labor opened the summit with encouraging comments.

Gen. George T. Babbitt, AFMC commander, said senior AFMC leadership must be committed to engage in a good-faith exploration of mechanisms to attempt to move away from an adversarial and litigious relationship with AFGE Council 214.

Bobby Harnage, AFGE national president, in his opening remarks said the parties should look to see how they can work together and do it because they can agree, not because they have to.

With the continued support of Gen. Babbitt and Mr. Harnage, we as an institution will be able to address the workforce's concerns and interests, while at the same time supporting our customer's needs in an environment of dwindling budgets, said Davis.

Both AFMC and AFGE leaders

have worked toward the summit for nearly a year. Swerdzewski offered his services to the two groups based on their past relationship and the need for improved cooperation between the two in the face of government budget austerity and downsizing throughout the Air Force. Representatives from both sides met with Swerdzewski in May 1997, and each group followed up separately with him to examine critical issues and options for improving the working environment.

During the summit, the groups discussed their relationships as well as strategies for an approach to effective labor management relations.

"Discussion became robust at times, but when the dust settled it was clear that labor and management had many of the same interests for the workforce, the American taxpayer and the customers we support," Davis said.

In order to build trust the parties must have a commitment to change and a process to change, Swerdzewski said.

Although many specific issues were not completely resolved, both sides made the commitment to develop the process for change. They agreed to move beyond past differences and develop effective

working relationships based on mutual respect and professionalism.

Specific objectives agreed on at the summit included bringing the master labor agreement to closure, establishing a working partnership at the command level between AFMC and AFGE Council 214, providing necessary training to improve the skills of employees to develop a versatile workforce and improving the operational business processes of the command.

Other objectives included developing effective approaches to reduce costs, sharing information in an open and timely manner, working together to identify problems and developing solutions before decisions are made, creating opportunities for employee growth and development and establishing a process to prioritize issues and focusing on what is important.

Both sides agreed the summit was a step in the right direction toward improving relations between management and labor within AFMC.

According to Peterson, who remains cautiously optimistic, the parties set their objectives with timelines to accomplish specific actions and laid the groundwork for future progress in labor management relations.

MAZZA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

greater on the civilians than on the military. The military members will get another assignment, but the civilians' livelihood rests on that BRAC decision or that competitive resource decision," he said. "So, we all need to have an appreciation for the fact that the base realignment and closure process does impact civilians lives," he added. While base closure does affect civilians' livelihood, he suggests that we use it as a way to recognize that nothing remain stagnant. "The base closure and realignment process presents opportunities for civilians to maybe get a job at another base," he continued. "Life requires changes," Mazza added. He also encourages civilians to focus on the changes and to ask themselves, "What can I do to help myself and my family to get through these changes?"

"The AFMC leadership is here to help make the base closure process as easy as possible for our civilian team members," Mazza added. Gen. George T. Babbitt, AFMC commander, is very sensitive to base closure issues that affect the civilian personnel. "He is in the process of establishing an executive

director's position in his office so that he will have civilian input regarding civilian matters, just as he has me as an enlisted advisor," said Mazza. The office will include the commander, the vice-commander, and the civilian director.

Base closure and realignment is much easier for military members than it is for civilians from a career perspective because they will get an assignment. However, for them to better cope with the transition and to be better prepared to help with their future career plans, Mazza encourages the military members to (1) stay focused on the job at hand until the bases closes

or they are reassigned; this is your most important responsibility; (2) start thinking about future career plans, that is, what you want to do after McClellan; and (3) stay positive because this is a significant change.

During Mazza's site visit, he met with the McClellan Top-3 group. He commended them for being such a "good group and good leaders; for being a very influential group on the base; and for serving as professional role models for the other enlisted members." He said, "It is the NCOs' responsibility to be involved with the troops; it sends a strong message to them. We need NCOs to be advisors for our young airmen. We need to explain to our troops the value of education and make sure they understand what the Air Force has to offer in terms of benefits and opportunities. We must focus on the needs to build good airmen. We will always have a place in the Air Force for a good airman."

During his site visit here, Mazza talked students at the Airmen Leadership School; 652nd Combat Logistics Support Squadron; Services Division personnel; 938th engineering Installation Squadron; 77th Civil Engineer Group; the Base Airmen Council and members at a Noncommissioned Officers Association meeting. He also visited enlisted dormitories.



U.S. Air Force Photo by Laura J. Williams

(Left to right) Ester A. Stubbs, *Spacemaker* editor, SM-ALC Senior Enlisted Advisor, Chief Master Sgt. Len Czepiel; and AFMC Senior Enlisted Advisor, Chief Master Sgt. Marc Mazza, discuss civilian issues at the 77th Air Base Wing Post-Deployment Picnic at Freedom Park June 9.

People First: Command selection process starts

The calendar 1998 command screening board begins Oct. 19 at the Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. The board provides an opportunity for colonels and colonel selects to compete for command positions based on a realistic view of openings.

Officers meeting the following criteria are eligible to compete:

- Wing commander: less than 26 years of commissioned service as of Jan. 1, 1999, and pinned on colonel as of Jan. 1, 1999;
- Group commander: less than 24 years of commissioned service as of Jan. 1, 1999, with no date of rank restrictions; and
- Medical group: less than 26 years of service and May 1, 2001, or greater date of service.

Additionally, the following



experience is required:

- Rated command positions: officers must have flown within the last seven years;
- Functional command positions (space-missile, logistics, communications, intelligence, civil engineer, office of special investigations,, etc.): must have held the duty Air Force specialty code during the last seven years;
- Support command positions: all line AFSCs are eligible to compete;
- Medical command positions:

must be a member of a health professions corps.

Officers are ineligible if they have an approved retirement date; open unfavorable information file; are a senior military professor at the Air Force Academy; or assigned to a joint or critical acquisition position less than 24 months as of Oct. 1, 1999. Officers cannot be ineligible for two consecutive boards because they are in joint positions.

Officers are also ineligible if

they are an academic year 1998-99 National Defense University student and a joint service officer, who by law, must go to a joint job; or have already completed same level command test, except Air Force OSI officers and health professions officers.

The board only considers volunteers. According to Air Force officials, nonvolunteers may decline consideration, prior to the board convening, without prejudice and still be eligible for consideration by future boards.

Eligible officers will be notified by their military personnel flight in July. More information on the command selection process or other colonel group matters can be found at <http://www.colonels.hq.af.mil>.

FOCUS Center Jobs

This section contains job announcements from the McClellan FOCUS Centers. For additional information, contact one of the FOCUS Centers: #1, 643-5661; #2, 643-0086; #3, 643-6808; #4, 643-6648.

Position: Utility Systems Operator, WG-5405-08
Annc#: BE-98001
Close: June 30
Agency: Air Force Personnel Center
Location: Beale Air Force Base, Calif.
POC: Karen Gregory, (210) 652-5627
Remarks: Position is not for trainees. Applicants must have previous experience and/or education in a related field. Review vacancy announcement.

Position: Logistics Management Officer, GS-0346-12
Annc#: DY98-248
Close: June 19
Agency: US Army Corps of Engineers
Location: San Francisco, Calif.
POC: Debbie Yaworsky, (916) 557- 5169
Remarks: Review vacancy announcement and call agency for forms and/or KSAs.

Position: Supply Technician, GS-2005-07
Annc#: DY98-246
Close: June 19
Agency: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Location: San Francisco, Calif.
POC: Debbie Yaworsky, (916) 557- 5169
Remarks: Review vacancy announcement and call agency for forms and/or KSAs.

Position: General Supply Specialist, GS2001-09
Annc#: DY98-245
Close: June 19
Agency: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Location: San Francisco, Calif.
POC: Debbie Yaworsky, (916) 557-5169
Remarks: Review vacancy announcement and call agency for forms and/or KSAs.

Position: Natural Resource Specialist, GS-0401-11/12
Annc#: FWS-FWS1-98-246
Close: June 29
Agency: U.S. Fish And Wildlife Service
Location: Sacramento, Calif.
POC: Personnel Office, (503) 231-2018
Remarks: Positions available are GS-0486, GS-0485, and the above listed GS-0401. All are at the 11/12 grade level. Review the vacancy announcement and con-tact the agency for forms and/or KSAs.

Position: Auditor, GS-0511-05/07
Annc#: AFAA 98-043
Close: June 20
Agency: Department of the Air Force
Location: Travis Air Force Base, Calif.
POC: Debi Berry, (703) 696-8233
Remarks: This is a term position not to exceed four years. Review vacancy announcement and call agency for forms and/or KSAs.

JOB FAIRS

Boeing construction trade opportunities

Boeing North American Services, Inc., is currently recruiting for 60 full-time positions in the following trades:

- Electrical
- Plumbing/Pipefitting
- Carpentry
- Fire Suppression
- Fire and Security Alarms
- Airfield Lighting
- HVAC
- Welding/Sheet metal
- Boiler Plant Operations
- Generator Systems Operations

To qualify, you must have a minimum of five years experience in one of the above trades. An associate's degree (ASEE, ASET, or ASME) is desirable, but not required.

In addition to the positions listed above , BNASI has openings in Supply; Airfield Navigational Aids; Weather Equipment Maintenance and Repair; and Civil Engineering Control Center Operations.

To apply, mail or fax your resume indicating your area of interest to:

BNASI
Human Resources Department #100
5112 Arnold Ave., Bldg. 21, Suite 3
McClellan AFB, CA 95652-1314
FAX (916) 779-5031
Job Line (916) 779-5050

An Equal Opportunity Employer Supporting Diversity in the Workplace

Local Government Job Fair

June 24, 2 to 5 p.m. at the Chapel Annex
(Five counties and three cities to be represented)

Vacancies include, but are not limited to: Agricultural Science, Clerical, Communications Dispatcher, Computer, Data Processing, Environmental Health, Nursing and Office Administration positions.

Air Force announces new body art guidelines

Ester A. Stubbs
Editor

With input from AFNS

The Air Force recently released new guidelines regarding the wearing of tattoos and body piercing by military members. These changes, which have been incorporated into Air Force Instruction 36-2903, "Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Members," cover both men and women.

When asked about the new guidelines, Lt. Col. Phil Barrett, 77th Mission Support Squadron Commander, said, "We as professionals have an obligation to maintain the highest standards of appearance at all times." "While some may feel these changes might infringe on an individual's right of self expression, maintaining good order and discipline within our ranks is the overriding objective," he added. Please read the following article from the AFNS for more details about the new guidelines.

While not banning its people from wearing body art, the Air Force is setting forth guidelines on tattoos, branding and body piercing in an interim change to Air Force Instruction 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel.

In essence, tattoos or brands should not be excessive, and those that contain inflammatory, obscene, racist, sexist or similar content are strictly prohibited. Examples of those that could be considered excessive would include images or brands that cover more than one-fourth of an exposed body limb or are visible above the collarbone in an open-collar uniform.

The piercing guidelines simply state that males:

- On base, in or out of uniform, on or off duty, cannot wear earrings or any other visible body piercings.

Likewise, the piercing guidelines simply state that females:

- On duty, on base, in uniform may wear a single, small, spherical, matching earring in each earlobe;

- On duty, in civilian clothes may wear a single, small, spherical, matching earring in each earlobe. No other body piercings should be visible;

- Off duty, on base, in civilian clothes earrings should be conservative and kept within sensible limits. No other body piercings should be visible.

"Basically, we've recognized the increasing popularity of body art and have adjusted personal appearance policy to set appropriate guidelines for such practices," said Lt. Col. Whit Taylor, chief of the Air Force Quality of Life Office, which is responsible for uniforms and personal appearance policy.

"The Air Force has long had dress and personal appearance standards, and they are not stagnant," he said. "They are evolutionary and will continue to serve as minimum standards, leaving much discretionary judgment to commanders to determine appropriate appearance and safety requirements for their mission profiles."

Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Eric W. Benken said the



U.S. Air Force Photo art by Laura J. Williams

Mike Francis, the shipping and receiving clerk at the Auburn Journal who delivers the Spacemaker to the base, proudly shows his tattoo, earrings and lip pierce. All military personnel are responsible to know and follow the new Air Force guidelines.

Air Force has a long-standing policy prohibiting people with excessive or offensive tattoos from joining the Air Force, but has not had a policy restricting the display of tattoos, brands and body piercing on active duty. As with other issues, he explained, presenting a proper military image at all times is paramount, piercing and body art are not exceptions.

"We've tried to provide commanders, first sergeants and supervisors clear guidance on what is acceptable," Benken said. "They have the latitude to look at the size and extent of the tattoo and determine what is acceptable. I think the guidance is fair, reasonable and necessary."

Benken said most people now wearing tattoos are within the boundaries of the new policy. "This policy will not affect the vast majority of people," Benken said. "The new rules are for those who have taken body art to the extreme."

Benken said that because of the Air Force's global mission, airmen should be cautious about personal hygiene and other health-related issues that arise from wearing items on the body.

Air Force doctors back up the chief's position. Their medical opinion is that, in terms of tattooing, piercing and scarification (cutting into the skin with a sharp instrument), the most serious potential medical complications include blood-borne infections such as HIV, hepatitis B and C and syphilis, as well as staph and strep infections. Secondary infections might also occur during healing.

Benken added that the Air Force is also concerned about body art on people serving overseas where there are host nation sensitivities. In all these instances, he said, people must take care to present a proper military image as well as look out for their own safety.

Air Force officials sum up the new policy in simple terms: Airmen should refrain from obtaining tattoos and brands or from piercing their bodies because of health risks and the faddish image they present. Air Force members must be accountable and portray the highest standards of appearance.

Barrett pointed out that these changes are effective immediately. He also suggested that members with questions should consult their unit commander support staffs or the Military Personnel Flight for further information.

How Compounding Builds Savings

There are many ways to save and invest for the future. Your savings plan should be built on your financial goals. The payroll savings plan for U.S. Savings Bonds is a sure way to have the flexibility to decide how much you want to save every pay day to help you reach your goals.

Since earnings on EE bonds are pegged to actual Treasury market rates we can't predict rates in the future. We can, though, illustrate how compound



interest works to the advantage of the investor who saves regularly. Let's take a look at two savers with similar long-term savings goals. Rich Slowly begins investing \$100 a month in savings bonds today with a goal of building a nest egg for the future.

If Rich's average return is 5 percent compounded semiannually, the nest egg will amount to \$82,691 in 30 years. Let's meet Ima Procrastinator who wants to have the same nest egg but waits 15 years to begin saving. In order to end up with the

same amount, on the same date, Ima must start putting away \$310 each month, at the same 5 percent return.

Since the rates on Series EE bonds are market-based we cannot predict what the average return on bonds will be over time.



Things *'heating up'* at base foundry

The base metal casting facility has begun local operations and promises to be the foundry of the future as it supports both DoD and commercial enterprises

Capt. Tim Devine

Casting Emissions Reduction Program

The McClellan Casting Emissions Reduction Program foundry is operational. Four years in the making, the foundry is a collaborative effort between the U.S. government and the private sector. The McClellan foundry will be one of the 10 largest foundries in California. Sacramento's last foundry closed eight years ago.

The CERP is important to

castings, contain castings, or are derived from them. For the last decade, the domestic casting industry has been shrinking. An average of 100 foundries per year have either moved overseas or closed their doors.

The U.S. government wants to balance jobs and clean the air. "Our objective is an emission-free industry," said Bill Walden, McClellan CERP program manager. "This is one of the largest national programs to target an

industry," he added.

American foundries provide 200,000 to 250,000 American jobs with salaries well above the minimum wage.

During the past 20 years, over 2,000 foundries across the country have

closed partly due to tougher environmental health and safety laws. The CERP is a cooperative research and development agreement between McClellan, the U.S. Council for Automotive Research, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the California Air Resources Board, and the American Foundrymen's Society.

The CERP foundry will produce



Joaquin Ruelas transfers the 2,615 degree Fahrenheit iron from the melting pot to the ladle which will pour it into molds for casting, as Marvin Owens monitors the transfer.

national security. Its mission is to help the metal-casting industry remain competitive with foreign foundries while meeting federal clean air standards. Metal casting is a critical part of the DoD industrial base. Only the automotive industry buys more foundry products than the Pentagon. Ninety percent of all manufactured items ordered by the DoD are

Shop laborer, Justin Snyder, removes castings from shake out. Shake out is the separation of sand and solidified material following the casting.



U.S. Air Force Photos by Bill Nelson unless otherwise stated.



U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Tim Devine

Furnace operators, Joaquin Ruelas, Marvin Owens and Jeff Miller pour molten cast iron steel to heat equipment.

high quality castings using environmentally sound technologies, processes and new materials. The resulting information and research data will be shared with industry helping to ensure American jobs and our national industrial infrastructure. The CERP facility is a 60,000-square foot foundry that can produce aluminum and gray iron castings ranging in size from gun parts to engine blocks.

The foundry is currently completing final checks and operational evaluations for "base-lining and plant shakedown" said Walden.

Supplier evaluation requests are currently being processed for the testing of new environmentally friendly materials. Product testing and evaluation will begin in July.

The foundry will have a staff of 30 personnel. Although initially scheduled to operate through 2000, the CERP project has unlimited dual use potentials. The CERP program office will host the American Foundrymen's Society national quarterly Environmental Health Safety committee meetings in December, showcasing the McClellan foundry.



Joaquin Ruelas skims impurities off the top of the molten iron prior to casting. He wears a aluminized metallic silver jacket to protect him from the heat and splashing molten metal.

No kidding around: Top quality service in child care

Ester A. Stubbs
Editor

You don't always get what you pay for — sometimes you get more. Such is the case with the McClellan Family Child Care Program. Parents not only get top quality child care by trained professionals that's affordable, they can also have input into the decisions regarding the care of their children.

Three care programs are available at McClellan: the Child Development Program at the Child Development Center, the Youth Center Program available at the Capehart Youth Center, and the Family Child Care Homes Pro-

12-to-1 for the three to four year old children. Each care taker has an early childhood education degree and receive additional specialized training for caring for young children, infants, toddlers and preschoolers. They are hired for a specific level and may receive training for one or all levels.

The Youth Center offers Before-School, After-School and Full-Day School Age programs. The program provides activities for children of working parents under the age of 12 years old. The Youth Center program is currently at its capacity of 48 youths. The staff - youth ratio is 12-to-1. "Until this year, the Youth Center's school

age programs were funded exclusively through membership fees collected from parents, grants from local charities and a total of \$350 per month from the U.S. Department of Agriculture," said Lt. Col. Rodney Fitzpatrick, 77th Support Group deputy commander. "Beginning this year a small supplement is being added from the Air Force budget to help defray nonstaff costs," he added.

To enroll in one of the Youth Center's School Age programs, parents are charged an annual \$30 per child Youth Center membership fee and weekly fees.

The fee is established at the start of each school year by Headquarters Air Force and is the same for all Air Force installations. "Operating costs for the CDC must be funded in equal amounts by appropriated funds from the Air Force budget and the fees paid by the parents who use the CDC. These fees are determined annually by the Department of Defense," said Fitzpatrick. "An additional supplement is provided by the Department of Agriculture's School Food Program, which reimburses the CDC and school age program for a portion of the food provided to each child enrolled in the Child Development Program," he added.

Hot meals are provided at the CDC, but not at the Youth Center because it does not have a kitchen. The Full-Day School participants at the Youth Center must bring their own lunch. "Beginning with the new school year, Sept. 8, the Youth Center has coordinated with Dudley Elementary School and the USDA food program to provide a hot lunch, at no additional cost to the parents, whenever school is in session," said Betty Ona, Family Members Support Flight chief. "We don't have unhappy children here. They love being here," said

Ginger Purdy, a School-Age staff room leader.

Another service of the CDC is membership at the Youth Center for children nine years old and above. This program provides a variety of free supervised activities including board games, athletic events, home-work rooms and swimming. Other activities such as karate and piano lessons are also available for small fees to defray the cost of instructors.

The Youth Center is open Monday through Saturday. "Based on past experience, it has not been cost-effective to keep it open on Sundays due to the low participation and additional staff cost," said Fitzpatrick. "However, if there is sufficient interest, we will consider reopening the Center on Sunday," he added. A survey is forthcoming soon to solicit customers' ideas. "The suggestion to standardize the charging of late fees on Tuesday at both facilities has already been adopted," said Fitzpatrick.

When asked why the fees are not the same at both facilities, Ona said, "DoD funds the CDC more than the Youth Center because full-time child care is needed all year round for the youngest children of active duty members while they are at work. The amount of care needed for the school age children at the Youth Center is less. The mission of the Family Member Support Child Care Program is to take care of children and to provide the best quality care so parents can accomplish their military mission without worrying about their children," she added.

To ensure their children are receiving the "best quality care," parents are encouraged to become involved in the Parents Advisory Council. "This parent council controls what they want to see done at the CDC," said Fitzpatrick. The chair is even elected from the council.

Because the Child Development Program does not have enough spaces to accommodate all the children, 20 certified homes have been approved and licensed to provide child care in their homes. Up to six children, including the care taker's own are authorized per home. Each home care taker sets their fee with guidance from the Family Child Care Homes coordinator. The Air Force

provides the children equipment through a lending library located at the FCC office, and the training



(Left to right) Katherine Cline, Breanna Clayton and Heather Lehrman have fun together drawing at the Child Development Center.



Milisa Vincent shows off an alligator puppet at the Youth Center day camp. She is off track from her year-round school.

gram. The Child Development Program has two categories of care: a Full-Day program that provides developmentally-appropriate care for children between the ages of six weeks and five years of age. The other program is the Part-Day Preschool program which is a 4-hour program (2, 3, or 5 days a week) for children ages three and four years old whose parents want them to experience preschool before kindergarten. Some children age five years old also are enrolled in this Part-Day program as well as some after-school children.

The CDC has a 230-child capacity and it is currently full. Interested parents may sign the waiting list. Even though the Military Child Program is committed to providing child care for military families, Air Force-wide the program is only able to provide 56 percent of the spaces needed. The military's goal is to provide 65 percent of the necessary spaces in 1998 and 80 percent of its needs by year 2005.

The children at the CDC receive the best care from the professional staff on a ratio of 4-to-1 for the infants, 8-to-1 for the toddlers, and

and follow-up for each home care taker. Unannounced inspections are conducted monthly by the Family Child Care coordinator. The FCC Panel, made up of representatives from support agencies on base, decides whether a home is suitable to provide child care. To ensure the children are in a safe environment, the homes are inspected annually by the base fire, safety and health offices. They are also inspected annually by DoD.

The McClellan Child Development Programs operate with the child's best interest as its primary aim. The CDC is currently undergoing a national reaccreditation process by the National Academy of Early Child Care Program in Washington, D.C. According to Ona, "95 percent of all military child care programs are accredited while about six or seven percent of community facilities are accredited."

The Parents Advisory Council meets monthly on the third Thursday at 4 p.m. at Flashback's. For more information about the council or the Child Development Program, call Betty Ona at 643-6660.



(Left to right) Luke Tyon and Chris Greely lay out a wooden train at the Youth Center day camp while they are off track from school.

*U.S. Air Force Photos
by Laura J. Williams*



Training



IRA Peer and GRIPS Support

All Information and Referral Agent Peer Supporter Program and Government Response in Peer Supporter folks are invited to attend update training June 30 in the Chapel Annex, from 9 a.m.-noon. Presentations by professional care givers that will address the latest innovations in the field of human care services. Reservations are required. Please contact the Family Support Center at 643-1106.

Social

Picnic

The Camellia City Chapter 1322/A1322 of the Air Force Sergeants Association will sponsor a fun and game picnic for everyone July 4, at the McClellan Freedom Park, from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Admission \$3 per person and children age 11 and under are free.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Larry Williams at 643-2947, Joanne Theis at 344-3861, Nancy Wheeler at 332-4855, or Anita Puckett at 349-2602.

Scholarship Luncheon

The Armed Forces Communications Electronics Association will hold its 26th Annual Scholarship Awards Luncheon June 22 at 11:30 a.m. in the Officers' Club El Capitain Room. The luncheon will recognize ten scholarship winners from the Sacramento region high schools. The guest speaker is retired Maj.Gen. James Hopp. The cost is \$8 for AFCEA members and \$9.50 for nonmembers. Please RSVP by calling Lt. Col. Dean Allred at 643-0273 by noon tomorrow.



Education



Yearly tuition assistance cap

Beginning Oct. 1, there will be a yearly (fiscal year) cap of \$3,500 per student applied for tuition assistance. This is due to DoD standardization of tuition assistance policies. It is anticipated this change will not affect a large number of members using tuition assistance. However, careful yearly course planning will be necessary for those who will be affected by this cap. For further information, contact the Base Education Office, Bldg. 8, Room 225, 643-4776, Monday - Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Tuition Assistance

Military students receiving tuition assistance, or approved for bootstrap or educational deferment are reminded of their responsibility to assure grades are provided to the Education Office each quarter or semester, as soon as they are available. Funds management issues require final course grade upon course completion. The schools do not automatically forward grades. Failure to keep up with this responsibility as each course is completed will result in delays during PCS or separation out-processing. Prior to dropping a tuition assistance, bootstrap or educational deferment course; or for more information; contact the Education Office, Bldg. 8, Room 225, 643-4476, Monday - Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



Volunteer Ops



Volunteers Needed

The Central Valley Chapter of the Noncommissioned Officers Association will be supporting the 1998 Northern California Special Olympics games June 19-21 in Stockton. Twenty volunteers are needed for this three-day event. Anyone wishing to volunteer or for information call Master Sgt. Wes Wheeler at 643-1106.



Graduation



ALS Graduation

Class 98E of the Airman Leadership School will graduate June 26. The graduation will be held at 2:30 p.m. at the NCO Club. Duty uniform is appropriate. Contact Staff Sgt. Brian West for further information at 643-5879.



F.Y.I.



Local purchase liquidation

By direct order from HQ AFMC, effective immediately the Standard Base Supply will no longer order Local Purchase items. Those items that have been obtained through the Local Purchase processes will have to be purchased on the International Merchant Purchase Authorization Card

For a list of items that are on-hand and can be purchased through Base Supply's Demand Processing Element, call 643-4805. When the assets have been exhausted, there will not be more replenishment. You can access the Local Purchase liquidation list on the World Wide Web @ <http://www.mcclellan.af.mil/lg/lgo>. Links to the web site can be found on the McClellan home page and the 77th ABW home page. Point of contact is June Mendez, 643-4470; Ray Collingsworth, 643-4470; or Gerald Parrish, 643-4580.

Base phone book on the Web

The McClellan Telephone Directory is now available on the McClellan Web page. It can be found through the "Phone Book" on the home page. It is currently divided into five sections: Organizational, Personnel, DSN, Quick Reference Numbers and Fax numbers.

Please help us update and improve this directory by submitting the Change Request Form located within the "Updates and Comments" link at the bottom of the contents page.

Wellness Van

The McClellan Wellness Van will visit Capehart housing area, in the Youth Center parking lot, June 27 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., to conduct cholesterol and blood pressure screenings and health risk appraisals. All military family members are invited. Wellness Center staff will be on site to discuss services available at the center. For more information, call 643-4648/2260.

Classic Car Show

On Father's Day, June 21, the Second Annual Classic Car Show will be held at the Scandia Amusement Park. All fathers may golf free. For more information, call Scandia Sports, Inc., at 331-5757.

Army Depot Reunion

The Sacramento Army Depot reunion picnic will be held June 20, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., at Elk Grove Park, Elk Grove, Calif. Bring a main dish, salad, snack, or dessert to share, and your own drinks, plates, napkins, eating utensils and lawn chairs and/or blankets. A \$4 per car parking fee will be charged. For more information, call Marcia Turner at 643-4291 or Jim Gibson at (916) 448-0462.

Leave donations needed

Gayle Camp, a management assistant in Financial Management Directorate, is in need of donated annual leave. If you can spare an hour, day or week of annual leave to give to her under the provisions of the Leave Transfer Program, please contact the Employee Relations Specialist who services your organization for the necessary forms.

New Commissary Hours

Starting July 1, the McClellan Commissary will have new operating hours. The new hours seven days per week are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Health Care

FEHBP-65 may provide viable alternative to military retirees

Maj. Leslie K. Ness
77th Medical Group

As we all enlisted or accepted a commission to serve our country, we were encouraged with the promise of free health care for life, for ourselves and our families, as long as we served our commitment and retired. For that reason, military health care benefits are the number one recruiting and retention tool. Of course, the Cold War era ended, taking with it the resources we had available to see all eligible beneficiaries who chose to use military treatment facilities.

In 1956, retirees comprised only 8 percent of the eligible beneficiaries using our military treatment facilities. That number has grown to 52 percent by 1997. The number of retirees age 65 and older will exceed our total active duty population by the year 2001. We are tasked with caring for virtually the same size beneficiary population with 35 percent fewer military treatment facilities since 1987. Just since spring of 1997, the Air Force closed seven emergency rooms, five inpatient and obstetrics units, and 25 additional medical services.

Enrollment based capitation budgeting has meant our medical commanders must re-think the business of health care delivery. They now receive their budget based on the number of active duty and nonactive duty beneficiaries who are enrolled in TRICARE Prime and have chosen the military treatment facility as their primary care manager. Since our Medicare-eligible customers are not eligible for TRICARE Prime, our most loyal population is being faced with decreasing access to our health care system.

Recently, a task force was assembled in Washington, D.C., to address this growing crisis. Their challenge was to develop a way to continue to provide or arrange for a comprehensive level of benefits for all beneficiaries. In addition, they were to determine how far we could downsize without negatively impacting our wartime support capability. What is needed, is a plan to cover all beneficiaries with a variety of options since different needs require different services. With TRICARE as the foundation, Medicare subvention (TRICARE Senior Prime) is the necessary “next option.” Unfortunately, gaps in coverage still remain for some benefi-

ciaries, requiring even more options.

Current options for our age 65 and older beneficiaries include Medicare (part A and B), other private sector employer health insurance, or the Veteran’s Affairs. Under Medicare, beneficiaries have several options to include traditional fee for service, signing up with a senior HMO option, or other health care plans that may offer more flexibility than a HMO, but are less expensive than the fee for service option. Many retirees are also facing significant penalties for having waived Medicare Part B, assuming their military health benefits would be used instead. Legislation has been proposed to waive those penalties as we experience BRAC and decreased access for many of these beneficiaries. Starting in 1998, a Medicare subvention Program (S 1963 IS) began development and implementation at six sights around the United States. Whereas, this is a tremendous step in the right direction, there are many living outside these areas, and outside military treatment facility catchment areas for that matter, who deserve an equal benefit.

Retiree group concerns about this issue are simple, “Why should we have fewer options and less coverage than other federal retirees?” Medicare HMO options and the National Mail Order Pharmacy are good but are “not enough.” Many groups are pushing for implementation of FEHBP-65 as an option. If not FEHBP-65, develop acceptable alternatives.

One proposal to fix the access problem for our age 65 and over beneficiaries, is for enrollment-based care to replace space-available care. This means there would be an equal incentive to see this population as for our TRICARE population.

FEHBP was established in 1960 and now covers nine million active and retired federal civilians, congressional staffers, members of Congress, their families, and survivors at a cost of about \$16 billion annually. This figure includes \$2.9 billion for retired civilians age 65 and older. Although the program is referred to as FEHBP-65, the program would cover all Medicare-eligible uniformed services beneficiaries, including those under age 65 who are

Medicare-eligible due to disability. FEHBP offers more than 350 health plans, such as a choice of fee for service or less expensive, prepaid plans. Fee for service plans allow enrollees a greater choice of physicians, hospitals, and health care providers. Prepaid plans include HMOs or PPOs and restrict patients to designated providers. Typically, an enrollee would have about 20 plans to choose from, depending on availability. FEHBP plans are paid for through monthly premiums, with the government subsidizing a maximum of 72 percent of the premium (\$3,699 per year for a family) and the beneficiary paying the rest.

Members would be required to pay their Part B premiums of \$43.80 per month (\$526 per year). They could then use the FEHBP-65 plan to help cover expenses not paid by Medicare, such as prescription drugs and dental care.

“FEHBP offers more than 350 health plans, such as a choice of fee for service or less expensive, prepaid plans.”

There are currently 9 bills in congress addressing the issue of health care for our age 65 and older population. DoD is to submit a plan by March 1, 1999 for the provision of health care for retirees and their families, which is comparable to TRICARE Prime, by Oct. 1 2001. In addition, DoD is tasked with redesigning the pharmacy benefit to include a uniform formulary across all beneficiaries. The plan will include a centralized database that integrates military treatment facility and contractor retail and mail order programs. The goal is to create a system-wide benefit for Medicare-eligible beneficiaries.

We must regain the trust of our retired population. In doing so, we must develop a strategy toward a permanent solution that achieves equal opportunity to comprehensive health care coverage, one that is sustainable, and one that fulfills our promise to the extent possible.

For more information about FEHBP, visit the following web site: www.troa.org, or call Maj. Ness at 643-8412 or Flo Grapes at 643-8536.

Suicide

How do I know when my coworker, friend, spouse or I'm at risk?

Warning Signs

- Hopelessness
- Withdrawal from friends & family
- Putting things in order
- Giving away possessions
- Talking or writing about suicide

Who to Call

- Employee Assistance Program
 - On Site, Business Hours 643-0061
 - 24-hours, Toll Free 1-800-523-5668
- Mental Health 643-8308
- Organizational Health Center.....643-5374
- Sacramento Suicide Hotline 368-3111
- Your Health Care Provider

EMERGENCY CARE OPTIONS

From Hospital:		From Clinic:	
UC Davis Medical Center		American River Hospital	
734-3790	12 minutes	484-2222	15 minutes
Sutter Memorial Hospital		Mercy San Juan Hospital	
733-1000	15 minutes	537-5129	10 minutes

- Health Care Information Line
1-800-611-2883
- After Hours PCM Point of Contact
643-7212
- Health Care Finder
1-800-242-6788

Now showing at the base theater

My Giant - Friday 7 p.m.

Billy Crystal, Gheorghe Muresan - Sammy, a third rate talent agent travels to Romania and by accident, he discovers a 7 foot 7 inch giant named Max. Sammy thinks Max could be his ticket to the top. PG (language, mild violence and brief crude humor). 104 minutes.

Titanic - Saturday 5 and 9 p.m.

Kate Winslet, Leonardo Decaprio - Titanic is an

epic action packed romance with excellent special effects and intense suspense. The tragic maiden voyage of the super liner is the focus of the story which combines historical fact with a fictional love story. The spectacular disaster begins to unfold when the ship hits an iceberg. PG-13 (disaster related peril, violence, nudity, sensuality, brief language). 198 minutes.

Titanic - Sunday 7 p.m.

Get your motor running safely

Staff Sgt. Debra A. Schnuth
938th EIS Ground Safety Manager

The Air Force is experiencing a deadly trend this fiscal year, and I need your help to prevent it from happening in our own ranks. In 1997, the Air Force had a total of seven motorcycle fatalities. Already in fiscal year 1998, the Air Force has lost nine people to motorcycle accidents, and five of those were in May. But don't think this doesn't apply to you just because you don't ride a motorcycle. Your troops may ride, or you could be the person in the other vehicle involved in the incident. Most of these incidents were attributable to poor judgment, excessive speed, or unsafe maneuvers.



Photo courtesy of Sandy Loree

Laura Williams, Spacemaker staff writer, enjoys the freedom of the road. Auto drivers can improve the safety odds of bicyclists and motorcyclists by increasing their awareness. Watching for motorcycles and bicycles for one week will greatly enhance their detectability.

Fireworks.
No sparkle at McClellan

Steve Bockman
Fire Department

The discharge of fireworks on McClellan Air Force Base and in the housing areas is prohibited. Some local parks may allow legal fireworks, but you should check with them first. The only fireworks that are legal in California have the State Fire Marshal's seal on them. If you are going to discharge legal fireworks, watch the area where they are discharged. Dry grass or trash may cause a fire. Have a fire extinguisher present or at least some sand or a bucket of water within your immediate reach. Place expended fireworks in a bucket of water to assure they are extinguished. Another fire safety reminder, children should not be allowed to use matches. Too many accidental fires are caused by children playing with matches. If we are to have a safe and enjoyable "101 Critical Days" this summer, it is critical for everyone to think safety at all times.

Youth Center

Today: Open recreation, 2 - 7:30 p.m.; open gym 2 - 3 p.m. and 4 - 7:30 p.m. snack bar 2 - 6 p.m. advanced gymnastics 3 - 4 p.m.

Friday: Open recreation, 2 - 6 p.m.; open gym, 2 - 6:30 p.m.; snack bar, 2 - 6:30 p.m.; Family skate night 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.; \$45 per family. All children must be accompanied by their parents.

Saturday: Open recreation, noon - 8 p.m.; open gym, noon - 8 p.m.; snack bar, noon - 7 p.m.; piano lessons, noon - 3 p.m. Great America Trip, grades 7-12 7 a.m. - 10 p.m. \$25 per member, \$35 per guest. Permission slips required. Sign up by June 18.

Sunday: Closed

Monday: Open recreation, 2 - 7:30 p.m., open gym, 2 - 6 p.m.; snack bar, 2 - 6 p.m; children's martial arts, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday: Open recreation, 2 - 7:30 p.m.; open gym, 4:15 - 7:30 p.m.; snack bar, 2 - 6 p.m.; beginning gymnastics, 2:15 - 3:15 p.m., and 3:15 - 4:15 p.m.

Wednesday: Open recreation, 2 - 8 p.m.; open gym, 2 - 8 p.m.; snack bar, 2 - 7 p.m. Couples Communication Class, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. To sign up, call Family Advocacy at 643-1518.

Recreation Briefs

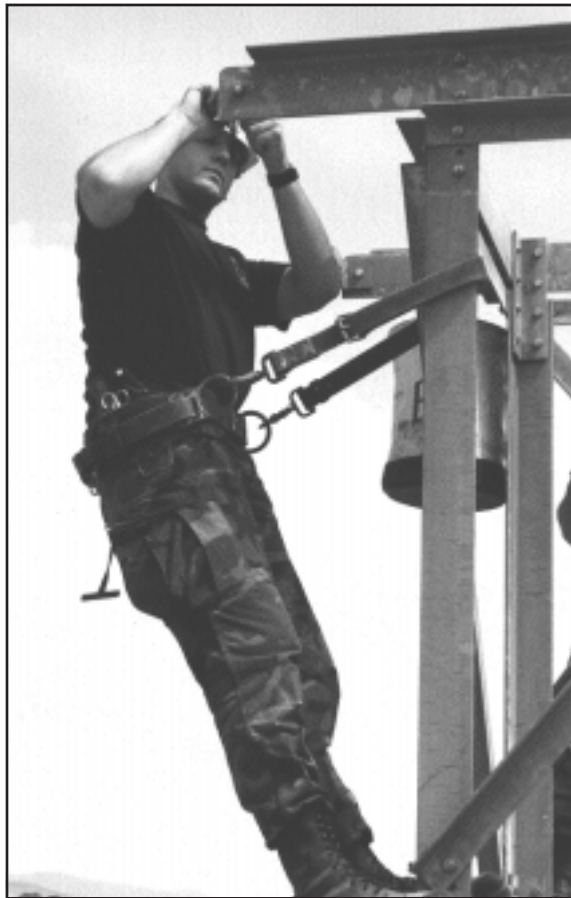
'All Night Comedy'

The NCO Club presents "All Night Comedy 5" July 2, 8 p.m. The show features top stand-up comedians and a group of dancers. After the show, the all-night disco will begin at 10 p.m. Tickets are on sale at the NCO Club and are \$14 for club members and bona fide guests and \$18 for eligible non-members. Note: the show contains adult themes. For more information, call 643-5977.

Auto Skills classes

Learn how to repair your car with free classes from the Auto Skills Center. Classes start Saturday and will continue the third Saturday of each month from 9 to 10 a.m. The classes cover tune-ups, brakes, oil changes and any topics of interest to participants. The Auto Skills Center is open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Thursday and Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays. For more information, call 643-2323.

938th improves safety of flight for Tuzla Air Base



U. S. Air Force Photo by Tech. Sgt. Steven Filips

Airman 1st Class Brian Burbine, 938th EIS, makes adjustments to a meteorological navigation aid at Tuzla Air Base, Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Tech. Sgt. John E. Radcliffe
938th Engineering Installation Squadron

In Europe the air seems perpetually hazy. Now it is spring and in addition to haze masking the gentle hills and green woods, thundershowers can reduce visibility to a matter of yards, and after the showers are gone, the mornings can be very foggy. While the scenery is picturesque, the limitations to visibility can be deadly to aircraft. For this reason, the 938th Engineering Installation Squadron recently installed an AN/GMQ-32 visibility set or 'transmissometer' at Tuzla Air Base, Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The installation of this meteorological navigation aid improved safety of flight for Tuzla Air Base, supporting the 401st Expeditionary Air Base Group, the 15-nation Stabilization Force and Operation Joint Guard.

Aircraft landings are serious business, especially with the weather hazards in Europe. The exact distance that the aircrew can see is a prime factor in determining whether the flight must be made under visual or instrument rules of measurement. The transmissometer is a precision instrument that gives readout of visibility from sampling a 500-foot area at the approach end of the runway. Prior to the 938th

Engineering Installation Squadron's arrival, the Tuzla staff could only look at fixed landmarks of known distances to make visibility reports.

While on site, the team made the most mission effective use of their expertise. In addition to installing the visibility set, the team installed 8,000 feet of additional communications cable to support planned future upgrades to airfield systems.

Tech. Sgt. Steven Filips, the team chief, did a field survey of sites and support facilities for future permanent installation of a Tactical Air Navigation beacon on 15-foot towers, and an Instrument Landing System, which would support the base navigation systems. Staff Sgt. Darin Leon trained local communications maintainers on cable splicing techniques and gave technical advice on engineering a permanent cable plant to replace the miles of surface laid cable and field wire.

By the end of their 30-day visit, the 938th Engineering Installation Squadron team left Tuzla Air Base with greatly improved ability to carry out their mission.

Installation team members are Tech. Sergeants Steven Filips, John Radcliffe, Roger Whisman, Staff Sgt. Darin Leon, Senior Airman Chris Gadd and Airman 1st Class Brian Burbine.

Be smart: Avoid weapons problems on base

Courtesy of 77th Security Forces Squadron

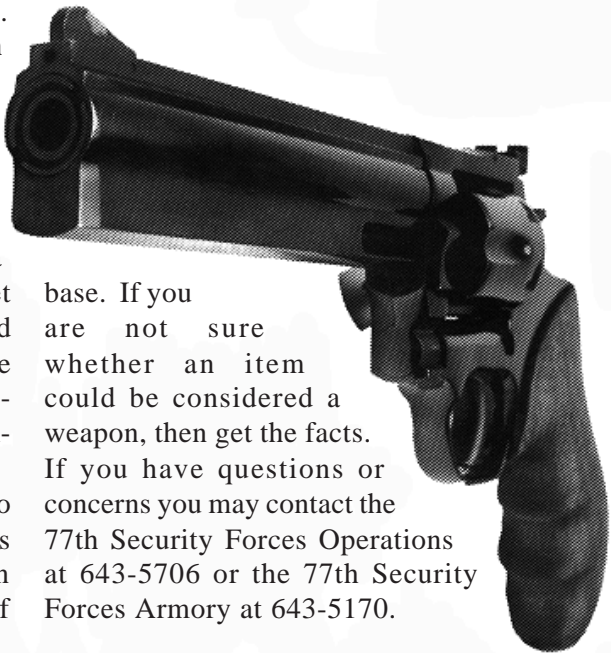
An increasing number of base employees, both military and civilian, have been prosecuted for the transportation and/or possession of illegal weapons ranging from firearms to knives. Are you among the guilty? Are you willing to risk your job, or your career? Here are two examples of the weapons proliferation that seems to be occurring on the installation.

Airman Smith's dormitory room was being inspected by his First Sergeant. During the inspection the First Sergeant noticed a beautiful set of Samurai swords displayed on the wall. Airman Smith said the swords were exclusively ornamental. The First Sergeant understood that Airman Smith was innocently displaying a souvenir from Japan. However, swords are

considered weapons and had to be confiscated. Airman Smith was reprimanded and his clean military record was blemished by a seemingly innocent incident.

The next scenario involved Ms. Jones, a civilian employee who works on base. Ms. Jones was stopped at Palm Gate for a random vehicle inspection. During this inspection a wooden club was found between the bucket seats in the car. She was detained and cited for illegal possession of a weapon while on the installation. Ms. Jones' supervisor was notified and the incident was annotated in her employee record.

The moral of the story is you don't need to be the next statistic. There are many items that may be considered weapons under certain circumstances. Leave this type of item off



base. If you are not sure whether an item could be considered a weapon, then get the facts. If you have questions or concerns you may contact the 77th Security Forces Operations at 643-5706 or the 77th Security Forces Armory at 643-5170.

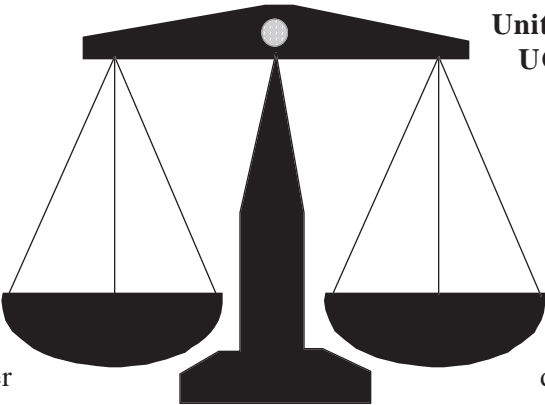
Military Justice Update

Article 15s:

Date Processed: May 7
Rank: Airman 1st Class
Unit: 938th EIS
UCMJ Articles: 92 and 134
Offenses: Misuse of Government American Express Card at a house of ill-repute; Wrongful loan of military ID card.
Punishment: Reduction to the grade of E-2; Forfeitures of \$225 pay per month for 2 months; Restriction to McClellan AFB for 30 days.

Date Processed: May 7
Rank: Airman 1st Class
Unit: 938th EIS
UCMJ Article: 92 and 134

Offense: Underage drinking; Wrongful possession of another's military ID card.
Punishment: Reduction to the grade of E-2; Forfeitures of \$200 pay per month for 2 months; Restriction to McClellan AFB for 30 days.



Date Processed: May 11
Rank: Airman 1st Class
Unit: 77th CS
UCMJ Article: 86
Offense: Failure to go
Punishment: Restriction to McClellan AFB for 15 days was vacated from prior Art. 15 punishment.

Date Processed: May 12

Rank: Airman 1st Class
Unit: 77th SFS
UCMJ Article: 92
Offense: Underage drinking
Punishment: Reduction to the grade of E-1; Reduction to E-2 effective immediately; Reduction to E-1 suspended for six months; 30 days extra duty.

Date Processed: May 20
Rank: Airman 1st Class
Unit: 77th CS
UCMJ Article: 86
Offense: Failure to go
Punishment: Suspended reduction to the grade of E-2; Restriction to McClellan AFB for 14 days; 14 days extra duty.

Mariachi mass celebrated at Base Chapel

Right: Mariachi Jalisco, a six-piece Mariachi band, play postlude music as they leave the chapel following Mass on Sunday. The band played throughout mass as well as after the service during a fiesta at the Rafferty picnic ground.

Below: Catholic Chaplain (Capt.) Randal Roberts and Bishop Richard Garcia of Sacramento greet parishioners following the Mariachi mass.



U.S.
Air Force
Photos
by
Freya Murphy

Base Chapel Services

Roman Catholic

Mass

Monday - Friday - Noon

Saturday - 5:30 p.m.

Sunday - 10 a.m.

Catholic and Religious Education

Sunday - 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Protestant Worship

Sunday - 8 and 11:15 a.m.

Sunday School - 9:45 - 10:45 a.m.

COMPETITION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

subject to severe disciplinary measures. As a result, until sometime in September, our work force, along with our managers throughout the center, will not have any insight into the bidders' plans.

Source selection procedures require the offerors to propose an Integrated Master Plan, an Integrated Master Schedule, and a Personnel Plan. This information will

be carefully evaluated in the source selection against standards contained in the Request For Proposals. After award, these documents will become the basis upon which we will inform our managers and work force about the winner's transition plan, schedule and personnel plans.

To give all of us time to react to whatever proposal wins the day, we have built into the schedule a 45-day "cooling off" period after award. During this period, no work will actually transition to the new source.

We will use this time to tell the work force about the winning offeror, to allow the winner to come onto the base into vacant office space we have reserved for them, and for all of us to get acquainted with their plans. It is during this time that most of our people, managers and work force alike, will learn about where they plan to perform the work and about the transition schedule. You can rest assured we will be conducting multiple Town Hall meetings during this period.

Many of our people are concerned about their ability to sign up to work for the winning bidder. While I have no insight into their hiring

plans, I expect offerors will be approaching our people during and after the competition to determine who might be willing to go to work for them in the event they win the contract.

Unless you are involved in the source selection, I would encourage you to talk with them and consider carefully any employment offers. Because we have built into the schedule a 45-

day cooling off period, this should provide most employees ample time to consider their options.

We want to make it easy for employees to transition with their work to the successful offeror. For example, we plan to provide people approved for

VSIP and VERA a flexible separation window to support whatever transition schedule the winner proposes. Our goal is to support the winner and enable our people to transition as quickly as the new source is ready to accept them.

We have already received Performance Risk Assessment Group volumes of the proposals. That means our source selection team is already at work, and no discussions can take place outside of those conducted with Ken Harsha, the contracting officer, or in direct response to an inquiry from the PRAG team. Technical and cost proposals are due June 19.

The next day we will begin a fast-paced evaluation of one of the most politically sensitive competitions ever conducted. But we are committed to doing it fairly, objectively, and in strict accordance with evaluation criteria set forth in the RFP. If all goes as planned, come September, our people supporting this work will finally know what is going to happen to their jobs and when it is going to happen.

"We plan to provide people approved for VSIP and VERA a flexible separation window to support whatever transition schedule the winner proposes."

DACOWITS representative to visit McClellan

Maj. Rae A. Dotter

77th Operations Support Squadron

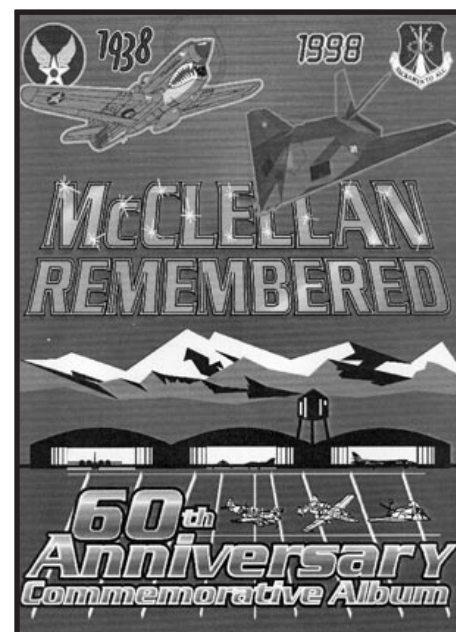
Enita Elphick from the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services will meet with McClellan Air Force Base service members to discuss topics concerning force utilization, career opportunities, and quality of life issues, June 24, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The DACOWITS was established in 1951 by then Secretary of Defense, George C. Marshall. The committee was formed to assist and advise the Secretary of Defense on policies and matters relating to women in the military services. In its advisory capacity, the committee recommends measures to ensure effective utilization of women in the Armed Forces. Additionally, the committee makes recommendations on quality of life matters that affect all military personnel.

Some current issues of interest to the DACOWITS include: sexual harassment; gender discrimination; women's health issues; victims' assistance programs; career progression, especially in fields opened to women post-1993; and leadership development of women.

Elphick welcomes your input at these meetings. Should you decide to provide the committee additional information after her visit, you may provide written input to OASD (FMD) DACOWITS, 4000 Pentagon, Room 3D819, Washington, D.C. 20301-4000. For more information, call the project officer, Maj. Rae A. Dotter, 643-6435.

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